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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

4 October 1950

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: The Korean Situation

I. Military SituationSummary

UN pilots are sighting and attacking extensive vehicle convoys moving south toward Pyongyang. While mopping up operations continued throughout southern Korea, ROK troops advanced farther into North Korea along the east coast and secured the town of Kansong, over 40 airline miles north of the 38th parallel.

Ground

The mop-up of remnant enemy groups is continuing throughout southern Korea, with UN forces capturing approximately 2,000 prisoners. Nearly 30,000 North Korean prisoners have been taken, most of them since 15 September. ROK Marines made an amphibious landing at the southwestern port city of Mokpo and secured the area. Preliminary reports indicate enemy troops massacred 500 civilians in Mokpo before withdrawing from the city. North of Seoul, US Marines secured Uijongbu against light enemy opposition. The ROK 8th Division moved into position for further advances to the north toward the 38th parallel. The ROK 3rd Division continued to move along the east coast road north of the 38th parallel against light enemy opposition and secured the town of Kansong, 43 airline miles above the parallel.

Navy

US naval units on the east coast supported the advance of the ROK 3rd Division and patrolled above the 38th parallel north as far as Chongjin, near the Manchurian border. The crews of the fishing junks intercepted in this area were generally composed of men over 40.

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Air

UN pilots reported extensive vehicle movements between the Yalu River and Pyongyang. One pilot reported extensive convoys moving southward in the Pachon area just north of the Chongchon River, with vehicles bumper-to-bumper and up to 150 trucks per convoy. Bad weather is hampering observation and interdiction.

II. General Situation

A Radio Pyongyang broadcast of 2 October indirectly admits for the first time that UN troops have reached the 38th parallel. The broadcast, quoting a communique from the North Korean People's Army Headquarters, stated that the North Korean forces "easily checked" a UN attempt "to invade the Northern Half."

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